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Consumer Product SAFETY ALERT

FROM THE U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20207

February 1989

Under laws administered by CPSC, an estimated 325 million potentially hazardous products have been called back from the marketplace and consumers since 1973 (when CPSC was created). Most of these were voluntarily recalled by manufacturers who established programs to repair or replace the products, or to refund the purchase price.

CPSC Warns of Potential for Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Involving Improperly Maintained Coleman 8600 Solar Pak Mobile Home Furnaces

An inspection and discount replacement program for some 100,000 Model 8600 Solar Pak mobile home furnaces is being undertaken by the Coleman Co. Manufactured Housing Products Division of Wichita, Kansas in voluntary cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission.

In response to reports received by Coleman and the CPSC of deaths and serious injuries caused by leaking carbon monoxide from furnaces which have alledgedly been inadequately inspected and maintained and/or altered or modified, Coleman has initiated a program to arrange inspections of its Model 8600 Solar Pak furnaces produced for mobile homes before December 1971. Coleman is offering home owners a premium to encourage participation in this vital safety program.

Although approximately 380,000 Solar Pak furnaces were manufactured from 1964 through 1971, it is unlikely all are still operational. The furnaces were sold exclusively for use in mobile homes either as original equipment or as replacement appliances.

Investigations of the incidents show that no single factor is solely responsible for the carbon monoxide poisoning incidents. Nearly all of the incidents alledgedly involved a combination of factors including improper or inadequate maintenance, improper installation, alteration or modification to the furnace.

To participate in this inspection/replacement program, mobile home owners should check their gas furnaces for the presence of the Coleman brand name on the front of the furnaces. They can then identify a Coleman Model 8600 Solar Pak by opening the furnace door and checking the rating plate. If the furnace is a Coleman Model 8600 Solar Pak or if the home owner is uncertain, they should call Coleman's toll-free Hotline number 1-800-232-SOLR. Coleman will assist in arranging an inspection with the closest service center.

Coleman is offering up to a 50% discount on critical replacement parts as well as up to a 50% discount on a new replacement furnace. Consumers can receive details of the program by calling the Coleman toll free number listed above.

Home owners are being reminded that annual maintenance and inspection of all furnaces is vital to the safety of consumers and to the proper working of their furnace. Older furnaces, such as the Coleman Solar Pak series, should receive special care and attention to insure proper operation.

To report any unsafe consumer product or product-related injury, consumers may call the CPSC toll-free hotline of 1-800-638-2772. A teletypewriter for the hearing impaired is 1-800-638-8270; the Maryland TTY number is 1-800-492-8104.

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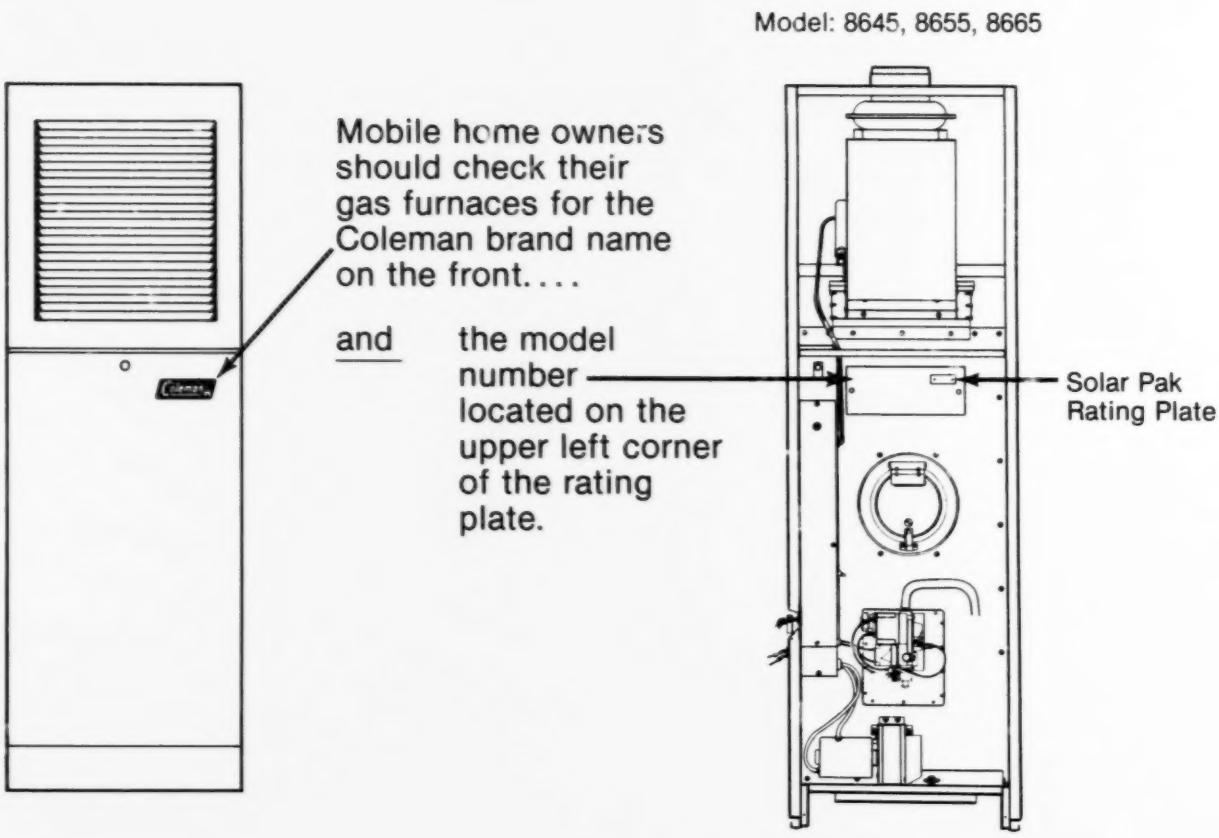
Coleman 8600 Solar-Pak Mobile Home Furnaces need to be inspected for the potential of carbon monoxide poisoning.


Model: 8645, 8655, 8665
Mobile home owners should check their gas furnaces for the Coleman brand name on the front....
and
the model number located on the upper left corner of the rating plate.
Solar Pak Rating Plate

Consumers should call Coleman's toll-free hotline number 1-800-232-SOLR to arrange for an inspection.